

Denton

# MAINE FARMER, AND JOURNAL OF THE ARTS.

"Our Home, Our Country, and Our Brother Man."

Published Simultaneously in Winthrop and Portland.

Vol. IX.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 3, 1841.

No. 31.

## THE FARMER.

E. HOLMES, Editor.

### "BOSTON IMPORTATION OF" (SHORT HORNS) "1819."

This is the caption of an article in the Western Farmer and Gardener, being a letter from L. F. Allen to the Editor of that paper in answer to some inquiries respecting the blood of Denton, and Cœlebs. As we owned Denton during the latter part of his life, and have some authentic documents in our possession in relation to his history and pedigree, we will take the liberty to answer Mr. Affleck's queries as far as Denton is concerned. Denton was imported in 1817 and not in 1819. The Massachusetts Agricultural Society offered a premium of \$100 for the person who should import a thorough bred short horn bull. Stephen Williams Esq. of Northborough, accordingly through the agency of his brother then in London, imported Denton, which arrived in the ship Edward, Capt. Cormick Nov. 5th 1817. He was then fourteen months old, and measured as follows,—

6 feet 1 inch from tail to horns.

6 feet round the shoulders,

4 feet 4 inches height over the shoulders.

He was bred by Mr. Kirkby of Leicestershire England.

He was sired by Denton.

Dam, by Baronet.

Grand dam by Cripple.

Great Grand dam by Irishman, &c.

Denton, the father of the bull in question was sired by the celebrated bull Comet which sold for four thousand guineas, and which gave such renown to the Durham breed of cattle.

May 17th, 1818, Denton measured from tail to

horns,

7 feet

Girt,

6 " 6 inches,

Height,

4 " 6 1/2 "

On the 13th of this month he took the premium of one hundred dollars from the Massachusetts Ag. Society as an "imported Bull."

Oct. 7th, 1819, he weighed, at the Worcester Cattle Show, 1869 lbs.

Aug. 1st, 1821, he measured as follows,—

Neck back of the horns 4 feet 4 inches.

Girt over the brisket 8 " 9 1/2 "

" common place 7 " 10 1/2 "

" over the pins 7 " 10 1/2 "

Length from rump to horns 8 " 9 1/2 "

Girt of bone below the knee 0 " 9 1-8 "

Dec. 15, 1822, his height was 5 "

His girt was 8 " 10 "

" over the brisket 9 " 2 "

And as he was then fat it was judged he would weigh 2,700 lbs. A year after, (Oct. 8th 1823) when not in so good order he weighed 2,580 lbs.

This bull was of immense service in rousing the farmers of New England to the improvement of stock. From Oct. 30th, 1818 to Nov. 4th 1824, he was put to 285 cows at ten dollars each.

He stood at Mr. Williams' farm in Northborough Worcester County Mass., most of the time until the autumn of 1827 when he came to Maine where he stood in the towns of Gardiner, Livermore and Starks. In the winter of 1830, his limbs stiffened as if with the gout, his teeth failed him and he died. In shape and color he resembled the portrait of "Brutus," in the last number of the Farmer and Gardener, very much indeed.

As it regards Cœlebs, as Col. Jaques who we believe imported and had the care of him, can speak. We can say nothing further than that some of the beststock in Maine descended from him. We believe he was not a herd book animal, but we doubt not that many poorer ones have been immortalized in that list of farm yard aristocracy, that were not so good in many respects as he was.

### MECHANICAL BUSINESS FOR FARMERS IN WINTER.

We are aware, that in order to become perfect in any art or trade it should be pursued by the individual as a single and distinct occupation. But nevertheless, many farmers in our state could very advantageously employ themselves during a part of the winter with some mechanical employment. In this way, the time, which would otherwise be wholly unemployed or employed to little profit would be turned to good account.

They could make thick shoes, or wrought nails, rakes, bows, and yokes, or carts and wheels, or busy themselves with some handicraft which will bring them fair wages, or at any rate much better wages than the "loafing" business will. The only draw back to the prosperity of the farmers of Maine, is the long winters which we are sometimes called upon to endure. We then eat up all the earnings of summer, and if there is not some little till to run into our perringers during the cold season, it will be both empty and dry in the spring.

### MERRY'S MUSEUM.

This interesting periodical has reached its seventh number. It is published by Bradbury and Soden, Boston, at one dollar per annum, and is Edited by the author of Peter Parley's Tales. We recommend it to those parents who wish to supply their children with an amusing publication, full of pleasing and valuable instruction.

Bradbury and Soden propose to commence another periodical for children of a large growth to be called the "Boston Miscellany of Literature and Fashion."

### RIBSTON PIPPIN.

A writer in the Western Farmer and Gardener says, that "after fourteen years trial with this noted English fruit, I am compelled to say that I have not obtained specimens fit for the table. They have invariably been watery at the core, and disposed to rot before they arrived at maturity." We are happy to say that the Ribston Pippin comes to maturity in this vicinity, and is all that the English writers say of it. Mr. Oliver Foster of this town, raises them in great perfection.

### MEDICAL SCHOOLS.

Some friend has sent us the annual announcement of the Jeffersonian Medical College in Philadelphia. There has been an entire reorganization of this institution.

The course of lectures commence on the last Monday in February. Fees for each course 15 dollars.

We have also received probably from the same source, the annual announcement of Lectures in the Medical department of the University of New York, in the city of N. Y., together with an eloquent inaugural address of Prof. Pattison. This school has for sometime been in the shade, but under its present organization it will undoubtedly take as high a stand as it did in its former palmy days. Fees for the Lectures \$105.

The advantages in either of these institutions for attending instruction in practical anatomy and surgery

are very great, and if they also give good instruction by precept and example in diet and regimen, they will do much good.

### NEW BRUNSWICK MECHANIC AND FARMER.

This is the title of a new paper just started in St. Stephens N. B. Devoted to general intelligence, by John K. Laskey, Editor and Proprietor.

Mr. Laskey has given himself a good name by the publication heretofore of some very fine poetry, and we hope the good people of New Brunswick will give his paper a handsome support.

### Original.

### VEGETATION OF GRASS SEED.

MR. EDITOR:—Please give me leave to mention a fact not known by every farmer, but which may be useful. Which is that herdsgrass and other grass seed, not annual, if sowed in the spring, and through dryness of the season, or by other means does not vegetate or come up, as we farmers say, the next season being wet and favorable, it will vegetate. As the last season was dry, I hear much complaint respecting grass seed not vegetating, and farmers threatening to plough up the soil where they sowed grass seed last year, because they say my hay or grass there is thin. Such farmers never heard of seed vegetating after the first year. Only be still gentlemen, and if it is a good season for hay, it will be thick enough next year, my word for it. S. W.

A writer in the Merchant's Magazine, J. H. Lamm, Esq. in an able article on the progress of American Commerce thus concludes:—

We turn from this view of the exports of the country to a consideration of the various articles which are imported from abroad, and it must be admitted that there is ground for amazement at the amount that is required by the growing extravagance of the people. Indeed, the influence of commerce, while it has been in many respects beneficial, has brought with it a taste for those luxurious habits of life which may perhaps more properly belong to an older nation, and that were unknown to our forefathers. This extraordinary extravagance which has thus crept in upon the country, outrunning the means of the people, has been expanded to greater extent according as money was abundant, and infusing itself into all the departments of pleasure and business, has been witnessed in various forms, not only in our domestic establishments, but also in our equipage, dress, and amusements. We have decorated our houses with all the adornments of taste gathered from foreign commerce, and proportioned our other expenses to a scale which the former facilities of credit would permit. And what had been the necessary consequences of this state of things? It has just what may always be expected, in the end, of those who live beyond their means. Pay day comes sooner or later. The claim is lodged with the attorney, and either the property of the debtor must respond to the judgment which is obtained, or be assigned in mass to pay the debt. We doubt not that such has been the career of hundreds during the mercantile revulsions of the last few years, which have swept away in one general wreck thousands of our most enterprising citizens. The importer has sold to the jobber, the jobber to the retail merchant, and the retail merchant to the purchasers scattered over the country, each successively dependent upon the other for payment. But as the time has arrived in which this payment could be made, the result has been that the articles purchased, although they are consumed, have not been paid for to this day, if we are rightly informed.

We have entered into this view of the subject for the purpose of touching a question incidental to that of importations, namely, the measure of luxury in our own country inducing so great an amount. Even in the articles of silks and satins, laces, velvets, merinoes, and other fabrics of that kind, what a vast quantity must be annually expended, as well as in those



finer broadcloths which are worn here by the other sex! Now we do not mean to maintain that the use of such articles is not to be encouraged, as we hold that every matter of taste should be. No person, certainly could be a friend to labor, who would wish to see all arrayed in homespun; because it is the consumption of the various articles of manufacture which furnishes the market for its productions; but it is equally true, that, while in dress, as well as in other species of expenditure, we have as a nation gone beyond our means, we should endeavor to preserve that golden track, which we hold in all opinions and all action ever lies between the extremes? While we indulge in those elegancies and innocent enjoyments which throw a charm over the barren track of this working-day world, ought we not to avoid the excesses of expenditure which have sunk many thousands of families in ruin, and many a stout heart in the darkness and despair of blasting hopes?

In taking a broad survey of the domestic commerce of the country, we are impressed with the beautiful variety of resources which is unfolded by the soil and climate of its different parts. What an animating prospect is spread before the mind in the contemplation of the commercial industry which is acting upon the different portions of our wide empire, and what a vast amount of physical force is now operating in furnishing the materials of trade, as well as in its prosecution? We turn to the north, and we find the manufactures of that section of the territory supplying with its fabrics not only the south and west, but furnishing foreign countries with their products. The west, from its broad resources, returns in exchange its cargoes of wheat and other grains, which are sent down through the western rivers and lakes, supplying the wants of those who do not enjoy the advantages of so fertile a soil. The unbroken wilderness stretching towards the Pacific is sending freights of rich furs and peltry to our own ports through the same channels, or packing them in the vessels which are from time to time moored in the Columbia and other streams of the Pacific, in order to their transportation abroad. The fields of the south and southwest are burdened with the abundant harvests of the cotton and tobacco plant, the sugar cane, and the rice field, which are transported to the north or to foreign countries, annually augmenting the amount of our national wealth. The Seacoast is sprinkled with the ships which levy tribute upon the ocean for its aquatic tribes, from the mackerel that flashes in its depths like a car of silver, to the whale that lashes it like the tempest. The ports which stud our Atlantic frontier are made the great reservoirs of commerce, through which are distributed to every part of the nation the comforts and even the luxuries of distant climes, all contributing to adventurous industry, and all adding to the grand aggregate of human power.

Turning from a consideration of our domestic trade, we look abroad upon the ocean, and there we find our commerce floating from the icebergs of Greenland to the burning sands of the African desert—from the marble pillars of the Acropolis and the walls of China, to the wigwags of the remotest savage upon the north Pacific and the snow huts of the Esquimaux. Its sails are filled by the blasts of the polar sky, and the zephyr that breathes upon the sunny fields and crumbling columns of Italy. It stores its freights in the ports of Liverpool and Marseilles, or takes in its olives and macaroni by the side of the Venetian gondolier; everywhere increasing the amount of human knowledge, and acting as the agent of that liberty which is destined ultimately to brighten upon the world. The commerce of our own country, advancing with such rapid growth, and to such an influence as it now exhibits, is destined to perform an important part in those benevolent plans which make the present age. It has been nurtured under the auspices of sound principles, which are interwoven with the structure of our American society; and while it seeks wealth by fair and honorable means, we doubt not that it will in the end give back some return for the blessings conferred upon it by a bountiful Providence, in lending its energies to the amelioration of the condition of mankind.—*Merchants' Magazine.*

#### Original.

*Salathiel giveth an account of the drouth on the Saco—  
Speakesh complainingly of the course of the show-  
ers—and describeth a Skunk hunt.*

*Saco River, July, 1841.*

DEAR DOCTOR:—Our farmers have commenced haying with heavy hearts. The song of the merry hay makers with us, is already "a tale that is told." The crop last year was amazingly scanty by lack of rain, but this year it bids fair to dwindle almost into insignificance. No one in our quarter will get more than half a crop, excepting those who cut small patches at halves, and those who have the return to be less than half pay for a half day's labor.

What makes our case the harder, is, hearing by every traveller and learning by every mail, that the hay crop in other sections is abundant, even passing past precedents. This is like salt to a fresh wound. Not that we

our thoughts naturally return to our own "short comings" in our own hayfields, and the effect is like applying a wet blanket to our spirits.

The showers which make in the mountains at the head of the river, and so of right (not of course as the sequel will show) belong to us, file off East and West, and course down the Piscataquis on the left hand, and the Androscoggin and Kennebec on the right. It would look a little more like right, were you to make your own thunder clouds in your own territory and not decoy ours from their rightful region. The consequence is, that you get all the duckings, whilst our feathers remain dry.

There is no crop that our farmers can so illy spare as the hay crop, their hopes for another season are based upon it. When the grass plots bear an ample burden, failing stock can be readily replenished, and a good stock materially increased. With the ground now filled to the rafters and the scaffold filled to the eave boards, then is a goodly prospect for the ensuing winter and the following year. All the current expenses are incurred with a cheerful spirit, even the appearance of the tax gatherer is greeted with a smile. But reverse the hay crop, and the dark side of the picture is turned out to the unwilling view. Stock must be reduced, and to rates that are too low to dwell upon, and every recurring expense is only an unwelcome drain upon our already drained pockets! Our farmers are slow to believe that there is any substitute for the hay crop. They go into the raising of roots reluctantly, and abandon their cultivation for almost any excuse. The much wanted substitutes have all been condemned, almost as early as they have been tried. The cow cabbage which the Agricultural Journals stamped on so lustily some ten years since, turned out a veritable stump. The ruta baga is getting into disrepute, and mangel wurtzel is just losing its good name, and it will soon change for beet. There are a few, who yet continue to cultivate the two roots just named; and make great profit thereby; but the great majority stick in the old paths, and, if they cannot make hay they will not make any thing. It is hoped they will grow wiser by suffering, and that the sight of their decayed and pinched fields will cause them to make further experiments, before they quite throw by the ruta baga, and the mangel wurtzel.

The corn in our fields looks quite well, and bids fair to make a satisfactory remuneration for all the labor that has been and may be expended in bringing it to its maturity.

Potatoes are "up and dressed" and their topnots are ornamented with a profusion of flowers that may well vie with those manufactured by French milliners. If they only have "the root of the matter" in them, are rooted in the ground, as their flourishing tops, "the evidence of things not seen," causes them to be "rooted and grounded in the faith" of the farmer, all will be well in harvest.

I have been quite interested by reading the numerous defences which have been set up for the skunk in the Farmer and other Agricultural papers. I always thought him capable of defending himself, and have been inclined to believe that those who volunteer their quixotic displays in his behalf will make themselves as ridiculous as the renowned Knight of La Mancha. Glory may be in that direction, but I am quite willing those should bind the redolent laurel upon their own proud brows. I have an affection for the toad, doating from my earliest childhood, and aver that the precious jewel in his head is no paste, but, precious diamonds. I am no partaker in the general antipathy with which little harmless, not only harmless but useful snakes are regarded. Nay, I have begged their lives from cruel urchins, when pelting them with stones and beating them with sticks, though it requires long and strong persuasion to turn them aside from their cruel purpose, the result of a mistaken mother's wrong teachings. And frogs when made into pie, are good eating, passing many a savory dish that now delights our country Epicures. (Mem. I hope the prejudice against the frog as an Edible which is unworthy to be entertained by us shrewd yankees will soon yield to the force of truth and that Bull and Piper will be fatted for the table, a more delicate dish, (I speak from experience,) is not contained within our borders. I trust they will not be permitted longer "to waste their sweetness" and live and die in our ponds and meadows to no purpose, other than that of making night melodious with their happy notes.) But there is a limit! the force of my affection can no farther go! It already includes a long catalogue, which the world has banned and black-balled, and of which, as I deem, the world is as yet unworthy. But the skunk! pardon me Doctor, my organ of benevolence has not yet expanded sufficiently to contain him in its recess, indeed should he by hook or by crook gain admittance to the benevolent recess of my cere bellum, I fear he would quickly expel the motley group which has found refuge there from popular prejudice and persecution. They would make summary abdication, and hide the world's brunt, further off than his presence. I occasionally come near his skunkship in my evening excursions, and am careful to give him a wide berth, and like Loxley the archer in Iranhoe, make allowance for the wind, in case he should incline to greet me with a salute from his ivory

mounted ordnance. When he crosses my path even the "offence be rank and smells to heaven," I make not point of honor with him, for should I call him out he would have the choice of weapons, as settled by the code of southern hot spurs, and not being skilled in the use of a "skunk gun" I scent in advance the issue of the contest. I have no disposition to "seek the bubble reputation in that cannon's mouth" and without the fear of being termed a craven, gladly show the "white feather."

An amusing war of extermination was carried on almost to completion, a few weeks since against a colony of skunks that had domesticated themselves in our village. The old mother of the family made her lodge in the banks of a ravine, just above the mills, on the eastern side of the river. Her right of preemption might have passed undisputed, had she not committed nightly depredations upon the poultry. She insisted upon feeding her young upon the carcasses of delicate chickens, until her foraging incursions began to sensibly diminish their number. There happened to be at that time a sable skinned youth, who answered to the familiar cognomen of Neddy, staying in the village, who managed to pick up a few coppers by sharpening shears and giving a wire edge to scissors, and in addition, trimming the superfluous locks of the young men in true Boston style, so as to give them the appearance of the wild buffalo. Neddy was put on the scent, which he followed with unerring instinct, and soon tracked the old covey to her covert. Stripping himself almost to his sable shirt, he commenced digging dog fashion, and by dint of perseverance soon effected an entrance into the old Lady's skunk nursery where she was engaged in feeding and bringing up by hand her family of five little ones. The old one, aided by her offspring defended her domestic altars and her fire side with all of a skunk's pertinacity. But Neddy was not to be repulsed, he continued the fray undaunted by the well directed fire which assailed him in his entrance. Severally seized the young ones by their tails dragged them forth to the light of day and offered them up, an appeasing sacrifice, in the presence of those whose chicken broods they had feasted on, cheered on as he was, in his disinterested service, by the shouts of admiring boys. The old dam soon gave out in the contest, and after having exhausted her ammunition beat a quick retreat, leaving her young to the tender mercies of the chivalrous Neddy. But that night, in revenge as an offering to the manes of a slaughtered household, she made an onslaught upon a hen house and kidnapped a squad of chickens without eliciting a single cackle from the anxious mother, who, until morning dawned did not even know they were out. But Neddy returned from the war a savory morsel. In addition to his natural perfume, he had received upon his person the concentrated essence of a whole berry of skunks. Fortunately he was not by nature so constituted as to expire with "aromatic pain" else he might have long since perished the victim of inherent sweetness. To the skunk family he came literally,—

"Like the sweet south over a bank of violets,  
Stealing and giving odor."

In return for his labor of love Neddy was compelled to pass the night in the open air, for he could not be endured within doors, so as if guided by instinct and for the purpose of freeing himself from the scent of his skirmish he stripped off his remaining covering and buried himself in the sand bank, to the chin, in which condition he remained till morning. In more than a metaphorical sense he was clad in sackcloth and sat in ashes. His earth bed blankets abstracted from him all of his borrowed perfume, and he came in in the morning in all his native purity, glistening like ebony. His valorous achievement formed his daily theme of discourse, and no Funker Hill veteran ever recounted his victory with more of pleasure. In the hottest of the fight, when the shot flew thickest and fastest, Neddy was compelled to do battle with closed peepers, but averred that even then he could, through the closed lids, see a flame blue as indigo, dancing before them. The old skunk is still numbered among the living, a childless, perhaps a widowed mother. Let her in future shun Neddy as she would destruction.

I have thus chronicled for your Journal the battle of the skunks, should it prove too long, you can "unsunk" it, in accordance with the direction given by an amateur, contained in your paper of the 3d instant. SALATHIEL.

P. S. One week later. The signs of rain, which have been abundant the past week, and which have been observed with more than common interest, and regarded with uncommon faith, have proved cheats and tantalizers. The grass upon the old ground, that which has long been laid down, is, "all vanity and vexation of spirit," as the disturbed faces of the worms will evidence. The only passable burden is that produced on new and well dressed soil. The grass hoppers begin to multiply, though they do not regard that part of the injunction which enjoins, "replenish the earth." They are preying upon every thing in their path, and even attack the bull rushes. These they have denuded of their green covering and leave nothing but a white stem, the mere pith, in place of the verdant rush. This gives to the meadows, where these abound, an appearance at once singular and unique.

From inquiry, I am induced to believe that wheat and other grains will come in light, as they have come up thin and scattering.



## PRESERVATION OF BUTTER.

At a late Council of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, a jar of butter was received from Henry Wood, Esq. as a specimen of the successful mode adopted for its preservation when that article is intended for export to foreign climates.

Mr Wood informed the Council that this butter had been prepared on the 19th inst. (June,) according to the process adopted in eastern countries, where it was used for culinary purposes instead of hog's lard, which the Mahometan law prohibited, and would keep for any length of time in a perfect state of preservation, although it contained no salt or other additional substance. This preservative state of the butter was induced by the removal of scum, and the dissipation of the watery particles of fresh butter, effected by the gentlest possible application of sufficient heat to produce the result. Mr Wood stated in Asia this gentle heat was obtained by the natives by filling a large open earthen-ware pan with powdered and well dried cow dung, and then setting fire to it, introducing into the midst of the burning cow dung an earthen vessel containing the butter, which thus became melted; and when the scum, as it rose, had been successively removed, and the watery particles driven off by the heat, it was poured into a jar and preserved for use. Mr Wood suggested that a sand-bath, properly regulated, might answer the same purpose as the dried cow dung, and as the process was so very simple, there could be no difficulty in preparing it; and that, when once prepared, the butter never became tainted. Mr Wood stated that he carried with him to the Cape of Good Hope some butter prepared in the same way, a year previously, and which was there pronounced to be superior to the salted butter of the colony, and for culinary purposes far superior to lard.—*N. E. Farmer.*

## SLOBBERING IN HORSES.

Our readers will recollect that in the reports of the discussions at the agricultural meetings at the State House last winter, some speakers were represented as holding the opinion that clover produces salivation—others as believing that clover never produces such effects. Some—we were of the number—supposed that the slobbers were caused by lobelia. Shortly after those accounts appeared in our columns, a letter was received from Lovett Peters, Esq. of Westboro', directing our attention to an article from him in 1823, vol. ii. page 58, of the *N. E. Farmer*, on this subject, and another in 1839, vol. v. page 338, of the *Yankee Farmer*. The substance of these is the same. We republished the former, and copy also an editorial from the *Maine Farmer*, of July 17, relating to this matter. This is the season of the year when the disease begins to show itself and the insertion at this time may be the means of directing attention to the subject.

N. E. Farmer of Sept. 25, 1823.

Mr Editor—Having, within a few years, seen stated in the public prints, several opinions respecting the salivation or slavers of horses, and none of them being satisfactory to me, I will submit to you some particulars that have fallen under my observation. For some years past I have been convinced that the slavers of horses is caused by their eating a kind of grass of second growth, making its appearance in the fore part of July, much resembling oats, which come up in the fall after the crop has been taken off the ground, but has rather more of a brownish cast, and retaining its green very late in the fall. When chewed it causes a flow of water in the mouth more than any other vegetable that I have ever seen. If it has such an effect on man, why should it not have on horses.

There is another kind of grass that can scarcely be distinguished from it otherwise than by tasting.

It is, I think but about 20 or 25 years since there was any such disorder among horses in this part of the country. Mine escaped for some years after it had become common in this vicinity. The first I saw in my own horses, was a horse that was turned into a small pasture, where one had seldom been before. In another pasture on the same hill, about 40 rods distant separated by a natural English mowing, there was no such effect produced. From this circumstance I was led to seek for the cause of the slavers. Some had supposed it to be the Lobelia or Indian tobacco; on examination, it appeared, that in the small pasture there was no Lobelia, in the other there was much of it: and in no instance have I been able to find a plant of Lobelia that appears to have been bitten off by any cattle of any kind. This satisfied me that it was not the Lobelia.

After a few years it was the same with all my pastures that had never been ploughed, and at night, when my cows were brought to the yard for milking, streams of water ran almost continually from their mouths. Some few years since, being short of English hay, but having plenty of rowen, instead of hay I had my horses fed with rowen. In a short time they had the slavers as bad as they ever had them in the summer. Remembering where this rowen was grown the next season upon examination, I found there was a great quantity of the grass above described. This

summer my horses were not afflicted with this disorder so early as formerly. Previous to their being affected with the disease, I could find none of this grass; since that time I have discovered some, though the quantity is small compared with former years.

From the above mentioned circumstances and facts, I am led to conclude, that the grass which I have described is the true cause of slavers in horses. I leave it for the examination of others, and to those more acquainted with diseases than I am, to prescribe a remedy.

LOVETT PETERS.

Westboro', Sept. 10, 1823.

*Method of obtaining Steel of different Compositions and Qualities.*—In a memoir on the manufactory of swords and of iron, situated in the southern part of the Oural mountains, Colonel Anasof describes the processes adopted in that manufactory to produce the steel in earthen crucibles by the fusion of bars of iron and steel by means of blast furnaces. The peculiarity of this process consists in this: that iron is put into the crucibles covered with charcoal to submit it to a kind of cementation, whilst in England steel previously cemented is employed. In other respects there is nothing new in the method adopted, but it may be serviceable to state briefly the means indicated by the author of the memoir, of obtaining steel of different varieties in its composition and qualities. The following are his observations on this point:

"The processes adopted for the fabrication of steel are sufficient to show the principal causes which tend to vary the qualities of this metal; as, for example, the quantity of carbon absorbed by the iron, and the nature of the iron itself. As the first of these causes may be regulated at will, it requires no explanation, and the second need not now be considered. I will therefore confine myself to the rules that I have formed, which are the results of a great number of experiments,

"1. The purer the iron, that is, the more free it is from other substances, the better will be the steel procured from it; but the cementation will require longer time.

"2. All qualities of soft iron are not to be preferred to brittle iron; for if the hardness of the latter be caused by the carbon it contains, it is preferable to soft iron, of the same qualities in other respects.

"3. The aptitude of the iron to be converted into steel depends more on the quality of the iron ores even than on the preparation of the iron. For instance, the iron procured at Zlatoust, from the ore extracted from the Tesminck mine, is preferred to that of all the other mines in that neighborhood; and the iron from the iron works of Tagilsk produces steel of a superior quality to that from Zlatoust.

"4. The steel clippings from the swords made with cemented steel produce cast steel of a quality little superior to that of the clippings of iron.

"5. The bars of iron which have been buried under ground for some time, produce steel of a quality superior to that obtained from iron which has been recently manufactured. This fact was known in Asia in the most ancient times, but Europeans having forgotten the lesson of their masters in metallurgy, have been in arrears of those nations, not only in the art of making the best steel, but also in the knowledge of the signs by which the perfect article can be positively ascertained. If we are well informed, on English cutler at least, Mr. Weiss, has satisfied himself of the superiority for making steel of iron which has remained a long time under water.

"6. The clippings or pieces of iron which have been a long time exposed to the air, produce worse steel than fresh iron.

"7. The steel is of better quality when the pieces of iron are homogeneous and of equal size.

"8. The steel is softer when the opening in the crucible for the proof is small, provided that the pressure of the iron be equal up to the time the lid is put on the crucible.

"9. If the workman have neglected to put the lid on in time, he may render the steel of good quality by adding as much iron as is necessary to raise the metal to the proper height.

"10. If at the time of the final proof the steel does not send forth sparks sufficiently bright, the evil indicated by this bad sign may be remedied by introducing through the opening of the crucible two or three pieces of iron, of the weight of about half a kilogramme.

"11. The fusion of the steel mixed with powdered charcoal or soot in determined proportions, and in a closed crucible, as proposed by Messrs. Mushet and Breaux, might indeed produce steel, but its degree of hardness would be much less certain than on the plan I have described. In fact, if the charcoal be in excess the steel will become too hard; if there be not enough, the metal will be difficult to fuse, because a part of the charcoal will be volatilized.

"12. The addition of other metals, such as platinum, silver, or gold, in the proportions of 1-5 to 1-2 per cent, somewhat improves the quality of the steel; but the more pure the steel is, the less advantageous do

such additions become. The effect of the addition of these metals consists principally in making the steel more easily forged, the proportions of carbon and iron being equal.

"As to brittle metals, their mixture with steel is always more or less injurious, and this becomes more apparent in proportion as the quantity of the alloy is increased."—*Moniteur, Industriel.*

**STRIKING FROM LEAVES.**—In the spring of 1838, previously to his leaving Downton, it occurred to Mr. Knight's inventive mind, that plants might be propagated from single buds and leaves only. Accordingly, he had several pots filled with a fine sandy loam; the pots were about twelve inches in diameter, to receive the cuttings, which he prepared himself. The buds and leaves were cut out, as is usually done when intended for insertion in stocks, with but a very small portion of the alburnum to each. The kinds he operated on were double Camellias, Magnolias, Metrosideros, Acacias, Neriums, Rhododendrons, and many others. The soil in the pots having been previously pressed firmly down, and the surface made perfectly smooth, the cuttings were inserted with a dibber, so as just to cover the bud, when the soil was pressed firmly against it. The back of the leaf, lying on the surface of the mould was fed by absorbing moisture from it. The surface of the pots was quite covered with leaves, but so disposed that they did not overlap each other; they were then gently sprinkled with water, covered with bell-glasses, and placed on the flue of a forcing-house. The sprinkling was afterwards frequently repeated, and the glasses shaded from the sun, by hanging paper over them. In a short time the buds were seen breaking the surface of the mould, and by the end of summer some of them had made shoots of six and eight inches long, especially the Camellias, which were then potted off. The others that had not made equal progress remained as they were until the following spring, when they likewise were potted, and found to be firmly rooted. Since that time I have tried other sorts with equal success, but perhaps plants that have large leaves are best adapted for this mode of culture.—*Gar. Ch.*

**RAILWAY TRAIN CONTROLLER.**—A private exhibition of a model of Mr. Hancock's ingenious contrivance, for enabling persons on a line of railway to stop a train in case of danger, took place on Saturday, at the Zinc Works in Parliament-street. The invention, which is very properly called a "railway train controller," affords an instance of the advance made in bringing those apparently uncontrollable moving masses under the guidance of man. By this apparatus a child on the railroad might be able to stop the swiftest train. The principle on which the contrivance depends has been partly applied for other purposes in railway locomotives; it consists in connecting a part of the machinery with a vertical arm or shaft, to which a projecting rod placed at a small distance from the rails is attached. This rod is to be acted on by a projection on the rail, so that when the engine arrives at that point, the projecting arms strike against each other, and thus move the shaft attached to the machinery of the engine. In Mr. Hancock's patent apparatus three important effects are produced by this single action; the steam is turned off, the breaks are put down, and the steam-whistle is sounded. It is proposed that at numerous points on the line the apparatus shall be fixed to the roadway for acting against the projecting lever, so that the policemen can at any time stop a train if they are aware of danger ahead. The additional apparatus to the engine is so contrived that it does not interfere with the ordinary working of the machinery.—*Inventors' Ad.*

**Discovery in Animal Chemistry.**—The principles fibrin and albumen, which play so important a part in the constitution of the animal solids, are now, on the authority of Liebig, stated to be identical. M. Denis has communicated a letter to the Academy of Sciences, in which Liebig states that he has been able to dissolve fibrin by a moderate heat in a saturated solution of nitrate, and that the fluid has all the properties of the solution of albumen.—*Med. and Surg. Jour.*

**BEST CEMENT FOR JOINING CHINA.**—Heat a piece of chalk to a full red heat in a fire: and while this is heating, take the white of an egg, and mix and beat together with it, one-fourth of its weight of powdered or scraped cheese, (such as it is most void of cream or oily matter, is preferable,) or the curd that is formed by adding vinegar to skimmed milk; take the chalk from the fire, and before it is cold reduce it to powder, and add as much of it to the mixture as will form a thick paste, and beat them anew altogether, and use the composition immediately. When this is dry, it will resist, in a great measure, either heat or moisture. A semi-transparent cement suitable for china ware, may be made by gently boiling the flour of rice with water. *N. Y. Mechanic.*





## AGRICULTURAL.

## THE HESSIAN FLY AND ITS PARASITES.

BY EDWARD C. HERRICK.

For several years past I have spent some time in the study of the habits of the Hessian fly, and of the various insects by which it is attacked. During a part of this period I enjoyed the important co-operation of my valued friend, Mr. James D. Dana, now absent from the country, as one of the scientific corps of the United States South Sea Exploring Expedition. It was, and still continues to be, my intention to offer an extended paper on this subject.

The investigation is not yet in every particular so complete as could be wished, but several circumstances seem to render it advisable to give at this time, a brief abstract of some portion of the results. The civil history of the insect, as well as the scientific descriptions, with many other details, are reserved for the final paper.

The Hessian fly, which has so long been conspicuous for its depredations on the wheat crops of this country, is a two-winged insect of the genus *Lasiopoda* or *Cecidomyia*, (Meig. and Latr.) and was first scientifically described by the late Mr. Thomas Say, (Jour. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phil. 1817, i. 45,) who gave it the specific name of *Destructor*. The popular name was first used by Col. George Morgan, of Prospect, N. J. on the supposition that the insect was introduced into the country among the straw brought by the Hessian troops who came here in the service of Great Britain, during the war of the Revolution. This supposition has been rejected by most entomologists, chiefly perhaps, because an extensive and apparently thorough inquiry made in various parts of Europe a few years after, resulted in the uncontradicted conclusion that the insect was wholly unknown in that quarter of the world. I am not prepared to assert that this insect was introduced in the manner above supposed, but it may be shown that it is highly probable that it was unknown here before that time; that it now exists in Europe, and has probably been there for centuries.

In the *Elements d' Agriculture, par Duhamel du Monceau*, Paris, 1771, 2 tomes., 12 mo., is a statement from M. de Chateaufort, of which the following is a translation:—"Our wheat [in the neighborhood of Geneva] has sustained the present month of May, 1755, an injury from which the grain cultivated by the new husbandry has not been exempt. We found upon it a number of small white worms, which eventually turned to a chestnut color: they fix themselves within the leaves, and gnaw the stalks. They are commonly found between the first joint and the root: the stalks on which they fasten grow no more; they become yellow and dry up. We suffered the same injury in 1732, when these insects appeared in the middle of May, and did such damage that the crops were almost annihilated." This passage was quoted by Col. Morgan, (Carey's Amer. Mus. 1787, i. 530,) in the belief that the insect described in it was the Hessian fly. The description is too imperfect to authorize a positive assertion, but there seems to be little doubt that this opinion is correct.

In 1833, Mr. Dana sailed for the Mediterranean in the U. S. ship *Delaware*. An opportunity was thus afforded him to make personal exploration for the Hessian fly among the wheat fields of the old world; a work for which he was well prepared by his thorough acquaintance with this insect in its various stages. His examinations were rewarded with the most gratifying success, for they proved that the *Hessian fly* is an inhabitant of Europe.—On the 13th of March, 1834, and subsequently, he collected several larvae and pupae, from wheat plants growing in a field on the island of Minorca. From these pupae, were evolved on the 16th of March, 1834, two individuals of an insect which his recollections, (aided by a drawing of the Hessian fly with which he was provided,) enabled him to pronounce to be the *Cecidomyia Destructor*. More of the perfect insects were evolved in the course of the month, one of which deposited eggs like those of the Hessian fly. In letters dated Mahon, April 8 and 12, 1834, Mr. D. sent me five of the insects and several of the pupae. They arrived in safety, and after a careful examination, I saw no good

reason to doubt the identity of this insect with the Hessian fly. The Mahonese asserted that the insect had been there from time immemorial, and often did great damage both there and in Spain. On the 28th of April, 1834, Mr. D. collected from a wheat field just without the walls of the city of Toulon, in France, several pupae and one larva like those before obtained. On the 4th of June, 1834, he obtained similar pupae from a wheat field near Naples. About the period of Mr. Dana's investigations in the south of Europe, attention was turned to the injury caused by certain larvae among the wheat in Hungary. It appears now to be commonly believed, that their parent insect is either our Hessian fly, or an animal very closely allied to it.

I have searched in vain for any traces of the Hessian fly in this country before the Revolution. The Rev. Jared Eliot, in his "Essays upon Field Husbandry in New England," Boston, 1760, treats of the culture of wheat, but makes no allusion to any insect having habits like those of the Hessian fly; neither does Kalm, the naturalist, who travelled in this country about 1750. I am therefore inclined to consider the common opinion of the origin of the insect quite as probable as any other which has been advanced.

In this part of our country, wheat is usually sown about the first of September. Soon after the plants are up, the Hessian fly begins to lay her eggs upon them, and continues her operations for several weeks. She deposits her eggs on the upper surface of the leaf (i. e. the *ligula*, or strap-shaped portion of the leaf) of the plant. The number on a single leaf is often twenty or thirty, and sometimes much greater. In these cases many of the larvae must perish. The egg is about a fiftieth of an inch long, and four hundredths of an inch in diameter, cylindrical, and of a pale red color. In about four days the egg hatches; the young larva creeps downwards, fastens upon the tender culm or stalks, generally just above some joint. The larva appears to feed solely on the sap of the plant; it does not gnaw the stalk, and never enters it, but is gradually imbedded in it as the plant matures. Having taken its post, the larva is stationary; it gradually loses its reddish color, becomes translucent, and clouded with white spots, and when near maturity, the central part within is of a greenish hue. In about five or six weeks, (or longer if the season is cold,) the larva begins to assume a brownish tinge, and soon is of a bright chestnut color, when the insect may be said to have reached the state of pupa. It has then some resemblance to a flax seed. The outer skin of the larva becomes the puparium of the pupa. The wheat plant is injured by the loss of sap, but principally by the pressure of the larvae and pupae upon the culm. A single larva will do little harm, and may even be useful by stimulating the plant to throw out side shoots; but five or six of them are sufficient seriously to check the growth of the plant, or perhaps to destroy it entirely.

During the winter the insect is in the pupa state, near the root of the wheat plant, and usually a little below the surface of the earth. In April and May we again find the Hessian fly laying eggs on the young wheat, both that which was sown in the autumn previous and the spring wheat, which is of course recently up. The larvae from these eggs become pupae about the middle of June.

There is no difficulty in tracing the insect as far as the state of the pupa, and to this point its history is satisfactorily ascertained. Regarding the periods of the evolution of the perfect insect, there is, however, some obscurity, which numerous observations have not wholly cleared up. The difficulty results in part from the fact that in this region, a very large proportion, probably more than nine tenths, of every generation of the Hessian fly, is destroyed by parasites. A great part of the pupae which may be collected will evolve some parasitic insect, instead of the Hessian fly. It is certain that sometimes the pupae, which became so in June, evolve the perfect insect in October following, and that other pupae of the same date will not evolve the perfect insect until October of the year succeeding. The following seems to me the probable history of the matter. The pupae which became such in the autumn, evolve the perfect insect, partly during the next spring, and partly in the summer and autumn following. The pupae, which became such in and about June, evolve the perfect insect partly during the next autumn, and partly during the year succeeding.

**Parasites.**—There are in this region, four principal parasites of the Hessian fly, one of which attacks the eggs and the other three the pupae. They are all minute *Hymenoptera*.

1. The egg-parasite is a species of *Playgaster*, Latr. and may prove to be identical with some one of the hundred species of this genus which are described. (Entom. Mag. Lond. iii. 217. Cont. Macl. Lyc.

i. 81.) The insect is abundant in autumn. I first saw it Sept. 23, 1833, in the act of depositing its eggs in the eggs of the Hessian fly. From subsequent observations it appears that four or five eggs are laid in a single egg of the Hessian fly. The latter egg hatches, and the animal advances to the pupa state as usual, but from the puparium no Hessian fly ever comes forth. This parasite forms within the puparium, a silky cocoon of a brownish color.

2. This is the chief parasite of the pupa. It is described by Mr. Say, (Jour. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phil. i. 47,) as the *Ceraphron Destructor*. It appears to me not to belong to the genus *Ceraphron*, (Latr.) but to fall within the genus *Eurytoma*, of Illiger. It pierces the sheath of the stalk, making a hole too small to be detected by a powerful microscope, and deposits an egg in the pupa within. This is done chiefly in June. The perfect insect is evolved in the summer and autumn succeeding, eating its way through the puparium and the sheath of the leaf. An insect (of which I have seen females only,) very similar to the *Eurytoma Destructor*, but with mere rudiments of wings, is sometimes evolved from the pupae of the Hessian fly. I am in doubt whether it should be considered a distinct species or only a variety. The winged individuals never throw off their wings.

3. The next parasite of the pupa is an insect of the tribe Chalcidinae, (Latr. in *Cuv. Regne An.*) whose genus I have not determined. Its habits are like those of No. 2, but it is evolved later. Apterous females of this species are also found.

4. Another parasite of the pupa is an insect of the tribe Oxyuri, (Latr. in *Cuv.*) whose genus I have not determined. In habits it agrees with Nos. 2 and 3, but it is evolved still later in the year. All of these parasites are likewise evolved in the spring, from Hessian fly pupa of the summer previous.

A few suggestions may be made respecting the best modes of preventing the ravages of the Hessian fly. They have all been published before, by others, but they are of such a nature that there is little probability that any of them will ever exterminate the insect. The stouter varieties of wheat ought always to be chosen, and the land should be in good condition. If fall wheat is sown late, some of the eggs will be avoided, but risk of winter-killing the plants will be incurred. If cattle are permitted to graze the wheat fields during the fall, they will devour many of the eggs. A large number of the pupae may be destroyed by burning the wheat stubble immediately after harvest, and then plowing and harrowing the land. This method will undoubtedly do much good. As the Hessian fly also lays its eggs, to some extent, on rye and barley, these crops should be treated in a similar manner.

New Haven, Conn.

Silliman's Journal.

## THE HESSIAN FLY.

**Messrs Gaylord & Tucker**—I have not been a subscriber for your valuable paper, till the present year, as your list will show. Thus far, I find it deeply interesting and well calculated to excite and promote a spirit of inquiry and improvement among agriculturists.

I noticed a piece in your number for March, headed "Hessian Fly—A Lady Observer." Honor and praise to the ladies! I have derived from them the far greater portion of my earthly comforts. I feel much gratified at the interest and inquiry, which the discovery of Miss Morris, respecting the Hessian fly, has elicited. The great desideratum is the discovery that the ovum, or egg, is deposited in the grains of the wheat before it is harvested; because, knowing the hiding place and fortress of the foe, we can the more surely adopt the means of his destruction. I will, therefore, give you my observations, confirmatory of those of Miss Morris.

More than twenty years ago, while I lived in Leesburg, Va. I adopted the opinion, that the Hessian fly deposited its eggs in the berry or grain of wheat, in its ripening state, and that instinct directed the deposit to the germ or bud, which was to produce the new stalk. The eggs, being deposited in that part of the germ, are enclosed within the first two leaves that spring directly from the germ. They are not often found at the third blade, though this may occur without violation of the general principle, as they may be deposited a little deeper in the germ, or may be moved in the growth of the plant.

I was led to this opinion while walking in my garden between the rows of peas, ripening for seed. The pods had become yellow, but not dry, and opposite to every full pea in the pods, I observed a white circular space, from which the juice had exuded, and in the centre a perforation. This was done by the insect which deposits in the pea the egg that produces the pea bug. And this is the general habit of insects to deposit their ova or eggs, in some soft and moist



substance, as cherries, plums, &c. The fact observed in the peas, led me at once to the opinion that the Hessian fly deposited its eggs in a similar manner in the grains of wheat in their ripening state, before they became hard.

Some time about or in the year 1820, or 21, I published an essay on the Hessian fly, setting forth my opinion, in the Port Folio, edited by Harrison Hall, Esq. Philadelphia. In this essay I recommended a trial of the following remedy, which I have used in a small way, and never found it fail. Soak the seed wheat in lime water, kept milk-warm, till the grain is swollen to the point of almost sprouting; then roll in plaster, after draining, till well coated, to prevent injury to the seedsmen's hand, and to promote vegetation.

I was led to this recommendation by reflecting that two agents, heat and moisture, are necessary to quicken or vivify insect's eggs. The eggs being in the grain, the warmth of the water would quicken them, and the lime would so corrode the membrane or coating of the eggs as to destroy their vitality.

**Early and late Sowing.**—Wheat sown early is often destroyed by the fly in autumn, because there then remains, generally, warm weather enough to quicken the egg and bring it into the "flax-seed" state, and sometimes to the fly state, and then the mischief is done in autumn. In very late sowing, there does not, usually, follow warm weather sufficient to quicken the egg, and it remains protected in the earth till the warm weather of spring, commonly in this climate about the 10th of May, when its progress to maturity shows its ravages at every stage.

In our climate, fifteen miles north of Washington city, the safest time, to avoid both the foregoing risks, is found by experience to be from the 1st to the 10th or 15th of October. The reason of this selection of time is, that in ordinary seasons, there will remain warm weather sufficient to quicken the eggs, but not enough to advance them to an injurious state before the hard frosts commence, which will destroy them easily, after being quickened. The general rule, however, as to the time of sowing, must be regulated by the latitude of the place, so as to avoid the extremes of early and late, in references to that latitude. And, after all, the rule and the reasons above assigned for it, will be subject to infringement and exceptions, owing to the difference of the weather in different autumnal seasons.

**Cold Winters and Little Snow.**—Fifty years ago, before the inroads of the Hessian fly, the farmers were delighted to see their fields covered with snow during the winter, as a protection to the growing crops. Not so now. Our best wheat crops follow winters in which the snows are light, and the ground generally bare or nearly so, and hard frozen, so that little of green appears in the wheat fields, and then they are not troubled by the fly in the spring. I have observed this for thirty years. The reason, I presume, is that the eggs of the fly and other insects, in their unprotected state, are destroyed by the severe frosts; whereas, this effect is prevented when the ground is deeply covered with lasting snows.

Sincerely yours,  
Albany Cultivator.

JOHN MINES.

#### ABSORPTION OF LIQUID SOLUTIONS BY TIMBER.

MR. EDITOR.—I find by late accounts from England, that the Agricultural Society of Scotland has offered a premium for the best series of experiments conducted with a view to ascertain what are the liquid solutions which, by being introduced into the sap of trees or shrubs, will preserve the woody tissue from decay, or render it capable of resisting fire, or impart to it permanently hardness, color, or fragrance.

The attention of the directors of the society has been called to this subject by a memoir of Dr. Boucherie, who states that by the absorption of various fluids by timber, he has discovered a method of increasing its hardness without impairing its flexibility and elasticity, of preventing it from warping, of rendering it less inflammable, and finally, of imparting to it various permanent colours and odours. He found that the attractive power of the vegetable tissue was sufficient to carry from the base of the trunk to the leaves, all the fluids which he wished to introduce, provided they were kept within certain limits of concentration. He cut a tree near the base when in full sap, and plunged it into a tub containing the fluid he wished to introduce, and in a few days he found it had risen even to the most elevated leaves, and had penetrated all the tissue, except the heart of the tree; and the same result followed, whether the trunk was in an erect or inclined position—it was not even necessary to divide the trunk completely; for a cavity hollowed out at its base, or a groove made with a saw over a considerable part of the circumference, was

sufficient, when the cut part was brought into contact with the fluid, to allow a rapid absorption to take place. It was ascertained, that an absorption of a solution of pyrolignite of iron, containing kreosote, augmented the hardness of wood and prevented its decay, while the penetration of the wood with the solutions of the earthly chlorides and various saline matters, rendered it less combustible. Various colours have been given to wood, by causing different solutions to be absorbed in succession; pyrolignite of iron gave the wood a beautiful brown, and when it was followed by an astringent fluid containing tannin, a blue, black, or grey colour ensued; and when succeeded by ferrocyanate of potass, a deep Prussian blue resulted: and in the same way the absorption of acetate of lead and of chromate of potass imparted a yellow colour; and by the mixture of these substances, a still greater variety of shades was produced. Different odours were, in a similar manner, given to various kinds of wood.

Now, in all this there is, properly speaking, no discovery—the thing was known and practised more than a century ago, but the application of the known fact to useful purpose has been the happy thought of Dr. Boucherie. In Tull's work on Drill Husbandry, there is an account of an experiment made by placing the roots of a mint-plant in garlic-water: it is there said, "I made a very strong liquor with water and the bruised seeds of wild garlic, and filling a glass therewith, placed the top of it close to the top of another glass, having in it a mint, two or three of whose upper roots put into this stinking liquor and there remaining, it killed the mint in some time. When the edges of the leaves began to change colour, I chewed many of them in my mouth, and found at first the strong aromatic flavor of mint, but that was soon over, and then the nauseous taste of garlic was very perceptible to my palate." By this experiment it appears that plants make no distinction in the liquor they imbibe, whether it be for their nourishment or destruction. I remember hearing of a person who, being about to erect a house on a spot which was overshadowed by a row of fine elm-trees belonging to a neighbour who could not be prevailed upon, for love or money, to remove them, made the following remark to the owner—"I should not wonder if these trees were not to shoot a leaf another year, in punishment for your unaccommodating spirit," and, strange to say, they never did! for before the next spring they had all died. On removing them, it was discovered that they had been bored with an auger and the holes filled with the black mother-liquor from a neighbouring salt-work, which had been taken into circulation, causing the death of the whole of them.

From this fact and its application by Dr. Boucherie, the most important results are to be expected. The timber, cut when the sap is in full flow, with its sapvessels filled with medicated substances and submitted to the process of seasoning by means of fire, would be rendered as close and impenetrable as marble, and its lasting quality be preserved for ages, with no fear of worm or dry-rot. Such timber, when properly prepared, would be invaluable for the purpose of ship-building, as well as for every other kind of building to which it can be applied; while that wood which has hitherto been considered as inferior and unfit for such purposes, might be rendered almost as valuable as the best. The bottomwood, and other large and soft woods, particularly. Truly we live in an age of "improvement!"—*Farmers' Cabinet.* Z.

#### STEAM-BOILER EXPLOSIONS.

On Tuesday evening, at the usual weekly meeting of the Institution of Civil Engineers, among other papers there was read an abstract of a paper by Dr. Schafatol, which the author, who was present, illustrated by a small apparatus he had with him, to show that the bottom of the boiler was blown away before the top, in case of an explosion, or rather that the explosive force reached the lower part before the upper, and that therefore "the present safety-valve was in many cases little better than useless." Mr. Josiah Parkes made many remarks on the doctor's experiments, and generally on the causes of the bursting or explosion of boilers. He gave several extraordinary instances of the different effects of explosions, and argued that there must be different causes to produce those various effects. In some cases the accident resulted from there being no water, or only very little, in the boiler; in others, because there was too much: in some, because the existing safety-valve was closed; in others, because it was suddenly opened; and in some cases because there was neither water nor steam in the boiler, nor fire below it. He gave examples, and where the consequences had too often been the sacrifice of lives to a very great extent, as well as the destruction of property. After alluding to the accident on the Norwich river in 1817, which

he observed appeared to be one of those events that formed part of the "stock in trade" of every writer on steam-boiler explosions, he adverted to one at Stockport, which occurred when there was neither fire, water nor steam present. In that instance the stoker had, on the Saturday evening, emptied the boiler of its water by knocking up a plug in the bottom, and thereby extinguishing the fire at the same time. The stoker then left the place without having taken off the plate from the top of the man hole. On the Sunday afternoon, about 5 o'clock, the unfortunate man went to clean out the boiler. He took the cover from the man hole, placed a lantern he had on the top of the boiler, and descended into it by means of the iron ladder. When he was nearly down, he took the light, and brought it into the boiler, and that instant he was sent up about 100 yards into the air, and fell through the roof of the dye-house. The boiler rose many feet, and fell back into its seat. The man was scorched as black as a negro. The engineer who entered the yard about the time to see that the stoker was at his work, heard him in the dye-house exclaiming, "Let me out; let me out. I am frozen to death!" He broke open the door, and the poor fellow ran past him into his own house on the premises, and died that night, after minutely detailing how the accident had occurred. Then (inquired Mr. Parkes) what was the cause of the explosion? It could not have been in the boiler, for if it were the force would have acted on all sides of it equally. Then where was it? He continued, that for many years he had diligently collected the facts attending every explosion he heard of, and was preparing to put them in such a form as to afford facilities for examination; but in the meantime he thought it advisable to direct the attention of practical men to the facts, that they might arrive at the causes of those explosions, and the manner in which the force acted. He afterwards spoke of an immense number of explosions, adding, that in iron works it was known that a single drop of water would produce tremendous explosive power in this manner; if in a puddle-furnace a drop of water were placed on the red-hot slag, no effect is produced; but if the drop be pressed into the metal with a stick, then it explodes with force sufficient not only to shatter the furnace, but to blow away the roof of the building. The drop of water could not produce steam sufficient to fill the furnace, so that Mr. Parkes supposes the instantaneous generation of steam from even that small quantity of water produced a wave in the air, which was projected with such force as to destroy everything before it.—*Times.*

**CAST-IRON MANUFACTURES.**—The following report relative to an improved mode of manufacturing cast-iron articles, by M. Bourbon Leblanc, of Paris, has been made to the Society of Encouragement, by a committee appointed for the purpose:

"The committee of chemical arts having been commissioned to examine the productions in refined cast iron presented to the Society by M. Bourbon Leblanc, make the following report of the result of their trials:—

"Since Reaumur made known the fact that cast-iron when annealed with certain substances undergoes remarkable changes, and acquires properties which assimilated it to soft iron, and render it capable of being substituted for that metal for many purposes, numerous attempts have been made to apply [this fact] to the arts. The Society has rewarded the exertions of Bardelle, and in England large establishments have been formed for carrying on processes which more or less resemble it. In France, also, exertions have been made to realize the results obtained by Reaumur; but the modes of operating have varied; instead of merely annealing the pieces of cast iron, it has been, when in a state of fusion, mixed with substances intended to reduce it to a homogeneous state, and to give it qualities which render it more like soft iron.

"It is this kind of process that M. Bourbon Leblanc adopts to obtain the articles which he manufactures. The committee, without being acquainted with the nature of the substances which he mixes with the cast iron, in order to give it the requisite qualities, has been present during the operation, and proved that the nature of the metal becomes modified in proportion to the number of refinings to which it is subjected. The operation may be either effected in crucibles, or in ordinary furnaces. The cast-iron obtained by this means is easily moulded, takes a beautiful polish, has sharp edges, and possesses so much tenacity that different instruments, such as hatchets, hammers, and other implements, which have been used without any particular care, have resisted all the trials to which they have been subjected.

"The establishments founded either in England or France for manufacturing a variety of articles with



refined cast-iron, after having been attended with more or less success, have all of them gradually ceased their operations, because it is considered a sufficient reason for depreciating all such productions, if some articles have occasionally a flaw which causes them to break easily; on the other hand it must be admitted that the very variable nature of cast-iron cannot fail to influence the productions of a manufactory in a very considerable degree; but we may be allowed to say, that cast iron of very inferior quality, subjected to the treatment adopted by M. Bourbon Leblanc, appears to us to have acquired a degree of homogeneity which prognosticate regular results.

"The committee have no data relative to the price of the manufactures of M. Bourbon Leblanc.

According to the statements that have been made by the inventor, the expense of refining would be considerably below the price of the materials, even when the operation requires many times repeating.

"If these results are correct, the proof of which can only be decided when the manufacture is worked on a large scale, if the productions are always the same, the process of M. Bourbon Leblanc may be of essential service to the iron manufactures."—*Inventors' Al.*

## SUMMARY.

### AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION.

At the approaching Sept. Election the people of this State are to act upon two important amendments to the Constitution of this State. The first is to determine whether the Governor, members of Legislature and other State Officers shall be elected for two years, and the Legislature meet but once in two years—or the Elections and meetings of the Legislature to remain as they now are.

Second. They are to determine whether the number of Representatives shall be fixed at one hundred and fifty-one or the Constitution to remain unaltered on that subject.

The Constitution provides that when the Representation shall be 200 according to the former apportionment, then the people are to decide by their votes whether that number shall be increased or diminished—a vote on that question is also to be taken.

The amendments proposed are of a character which ought to demand the careful consideration of every Elector. They involve principles of Government which should be freely discussed, and when the day to act upon the question arrives, each individual should be prepared to vote for or against the proposed changes. Whenever amendments to the Constitution have heretofore been proposed—but a small vote has been given on the questions to be decided,—may have neglected to inform themselves on the subject and consequently refused to vote when called upon to do so.

It is contended by many that a great saving of time, expense and Party strife will result from having the Elections take place but once in two years—and on the other hand it is said that the Annual Elections are the most safe to the liberties of the country—that the law making-power should return to the people as often as once a year.—*Gardiner, Spectator.*

**Crops in North Carolina.**—The Wilmington, North Carolina Chronicle, states that there is a fair prospect for an abundant harvest of corn in that State, and that the rice on Cape Fear River promises well. It will be remembered that North Carolina is a very large producer of corn.

**Costly bantering.**—A farmer near Buffalo went to that city with a load of butter. A grocer hearing that he asked a shilling a pound for it, by way of banter, said he had 500 pounds which he would sell for 7 cents per pound. The farmer told him he would take it at that price, and tendered him the money. The grocer made a variety of excuses, and at last flatly refused to weigh him the butter. The farmer immediately commenced an action before a justice of the peace, and recovered judgment against him, for the difference between the price he agreed to pay, and the actual market value of the butter, about \$24. The grocer appealed to the county court, where the judgment of the Justice was sustained, leaving the grocer to pay the farmer in the judgment, and \$50 to the lawyer besides.

**Congress.**—There is at length some efficiency in this body. The following bills have become laws; viz: the appropriation bill for the relief of Mrs. Harrison, and a bill authorizing a loan of \$12,000,000. A bill for the distribution of the proceeds of the sale of public lands, a Fortification bill, and a Naval appropriation bill, including an appropriation for a home squadron, have passed the House, and is now engaged upon a tariff bill, imposing a duty of 20 per cent. on all articles now admitted free, or not less than 50 per cent. The fate of this bill is considered doubtful.

In the Senate, a bill to establish a uniform system of

Bankruptcy throughout the United States, has passed 26, to 23. Affirmative, 22 whigs, 4 opposition;—negative, 5 whigs, 18 opposition; two whigs absent. The Bank bill has been amended so as to accommodate the views of the dominant party, and passed, 26 to 23.

**DIARRHŒA.**—People need not be long troubled with that disorder so generally prevalent at this season, commonly known as the Summer, or Bowel Complaint, when the certain remedy therefor may be found on every man's dinner-table, in the shape of salt and vinegar. Two teaspoonsfull of the former dissolved in half a gill of the latter, and swallowed at a draft, will in most cases effect an instant cure. The second dose, if needed, will assuredly accomplish it. We are ready to give our certificate to Dr. Pickle, in the premises; for we witnessed the proof. *Quod erat demonstrandum*—which is as much as to say, in Dutch, "it has been tried."—This recipe should be published annually—every summer.—*Nantucket Inquirer.*

**YEAST.**—Boil one pound of good flour, a quarter of a pound of brown sugar, and a little salt, in two gallons of water for an hour; let it afterwards stand until it becomes milk warm, bottle it and cork it close. One pint of this will make eighteen pounds of bread. *Lady's Annual Register.*

**Fire from Lightning.**—The joiners shop of Jonathan Fogg, Esq. of Montville, was struck by lightning on Sunday evening last, and totally consumed by fire. A valuable stock of tools and materials was also consumed upon which there was no insurance.

On Wednesday last, Bradbury W. son of Eliphalet Hunt, Esq. aged 11 years, of Manchester, (N. H.) was drowned in the Merrimack. It is supposed that the little lad went into the water for the purpose of bathing, and being unable to swim, ventured too far from the shore.

As Dr. Campbell, of Watermoreland, (Vt.) was riding home from Chesterfield on Friday night last, his horse stumbled, as is supposed, and threw him with such great force to the side of the road as to break in his skull and kill him instantly. Nothing was known of the accident till the stage passed the next morning.

A daughter of Mr. Otis Pierce, of Lowell, Mass. aged two and a half years, was killed by the upsetting of a stage in New Hampshire last week. There were eleven persons in the stage, but none seriously injured except the child. It had the efforts of Doctors Dane and Ayer of New Hampden, who were on the spot in a few minutes after the accident occurred, but failed to restore it to life.

**FATAL ACCIDENT.**—Mr. Reuben S. Morrill, of Falmouth, (Me.) lost his life very suddenly, on Friday the 27th inst. He went on that day, in a wherry, in company with a Capt. Elliot, up the Presumpscot River to get a load of herring. Having obtained them, and being on his return, at a place in the river where the current runs swiftly, the wherry was suddenly upset. Capt. Elliot swam ashore, the river being narrow,—but Morrill, though a good swimmer, soon sunk, and his body was not recovered till some hours afterwards. Mr. M. was aged about 45 years.

**CRIME.**—There are now in Sing Sing Prison, New York, eight hundred and twenty-three prisoners, of which number, seven hundred and fifty-four are males and sixty-nine are females.

**Bunker Hill.**—Bunker Hill Monument is going up. Sixteen courses have already been laid this season, making forty-two feet eight inches, and the whole allitude about one hundred and twenty-five feet. The view from this monument commands the whole harbor, a portion of Boston Bay, and a most delightful range of country for many miles round.

Miss Mary Newell, of Granby, says the Northampton Courier the other day braided fifteen variegated Palm Leaf Hats, of superior quality, and of good size. Her sister, the same day braided thirteen of the same quality and size. They commenced at half past seven in the morning, and finished at half past eight in the evening.

**Venerable Minister.**—The editor of the New York Baptist Register says he listened to a discourse a few Sabbaths since from Father Harvey, now in the 107th year of his age. He still retains the possession of his mental faculties, his enunciation is distinct and his physical powers vigorous, and he appears to be not more than eighty years old.

The grain crops in Pennsylvania, Delaware and New Jersey, it is said, will yield a full average.

**Farm School.**—Robert B. Gove, an assistant instructor in the Farm School, has been tried before the Common Pleas Court, for inflicting excessive punish-

ment upon one of the boys named Geo. A. Galilee, and convicted. The Jury gave the full amount of damages asked in the writ, viz. \$300. The case of Locke, against whom a suit has been instituted and damages laid at \$1000, has been removed to the Supreme Court.

A young milliner of Philadelphia was recently married, and soon after the marriage Mrs. Birnbaum, with whom she boarded, brought a suit against the bridegroom for the wood and coal, candles, toil, &c. used during his courting visits. She lost her suit.

**Liabilities of Steamboats.**—In the Buffalo C. C. John W. Marting has obtained a verdict for \$616 damages against David Wilkinson, in an action brought to recover for damages sustained by a collision between the steamboats Perry and Buffalo, about four years ago, in which Marting had his leg broken.

**Wool.**—We are told that there is an Englishman in Buenos Ayres by the name of Sheridan, who is the owner of a hundred thousand sheep. He began in 1826 with a flock of sixty. This flock is now principally composed of the sheep of South America, with long coarse wool, but includes some fine Saxonia. The flock is parcelled out to the care of the shepherds, each man looking after about five thousand. The pasturage lasts the year round, and costs nothing. Mr. Sheridan's wool must cost him very little.—There are vast tracts of our own southwestern country finely fitted for the growing of wool upon the same plan.

A great singing festival has just been held at Ludwigsbur (Louis-burg) at which 74 singing societies comprising 2,300 singers, from the towns and villages of the neighborhood assembled. The North Germans will also be astir next month, for the Humburg Festival, at which, among other attractions, M. Liszt has been engaged to appear. But the greatest piece of foreign musical news during the week, figures in the Belgian journals, which announces the invention, by M. Sax, of a steam organ—a monster instrument, with vibrating plates (huge steel bars to which immense pressure alone can communicate vibration—capable of being heard over a whole province!

The Ecclesiastical Council, on the difficulties existing between the Rev. Mr. Pierpont and the Hollis Street Society, have closed their deliberations, and a committee has been appointed to prepare a result.

**Arrival of the Great Western.**—This Steam Ship, Capt. Hoskin, arrived at New York on Thursday about 1 o'clock, bringing London papers to the 14th inst. The express says the most important item of intelligence seems to be the now almost certain change of Ministry, the revolution in parties will bring about. The Melbourne Ministry is down, and Peel is up.

The riots and bloodshed attending the Elections signally put to flight the charges British writers have made against this country on this subject. We changed our first and highest officer, the fountain of honor and patronage, without bloodshed, but the sacrifice of many lives attended the change of but members of Parliament.

In Liverpool there was dreadful Riots; also, in Cork, also at Kerry, at Waterford and Belfast.

At Rotherham 64 lives were lost at the launch of a small vessel. She rolled over with 150 persons on board.

The London Morning Herald July 14th, states that the new treaty for the settlement of the affairs of the East was signed yesterday afternoon, at the Foreign Office, by the representatives of the five powers—Austria, France, Great Britain, Prussia, and Russia.

The North American says that in Philadelphia, last week, there were 159 deaths, and one hundred and seven of them were under two years of age! In New York, last week there were 192 deaths, and ninety-five of them were under two years of age.

**Dreadful effects of Lightning.**—During a thunder storm on Thursday evening last, the house of a Mr. Armstrong, on Wrightsville Sound about eight miles from town, was struck by lightning. Mr. Armstrong, his wife, and three or four children who were on the lower floor, were laid prostrate in a state of insensibility.—Mrs. A. was the first to recover. On looking round she found that one of her children, a boy of about twelve years of age, was dead, and her husband so badly hurt as to be helpless. It is doubtful now if he will live. Three children in bed in a garret room were uninjured. A horse standing near the house and a hog under it were also killed by the same shock.—*Wilmington Chronicle.*

The York County Herald of Saturday last says:—We are yet without rain. The earth in the fields and pastures is dry to the depth of several feet, and the brooks, wells and small streams have become perfectly exhausted of water. Should this state of things continue much longer, our farmers in this vicinity will not only give up all hopes of a crop of corn



and potatoes, which otherwise must be exceedingly high—but they will be obliged to kill their cattle, or suffer them to consume before the setting in of winter the scanty crop of hay which they have just housed.

Dr. Franklin says "seven hours sleep is enough for a scholar, eight for a laborer, and nine for a hog."

The Steamers Portland and Bangor have advertised in the Boston papers a reduction in their fare from Boston to Portland, to one dollar, and the M. Y. Beach carries passengers to and from Boston for the same price!

A young man, employed in a grocery on Myrtle avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y. was on Tuesday morning wounded in the stomach by the bursting of a penholder, which he was loading and discharging after the fashion of a pistol. The pen which remained in the holder, inflicted the wound and caused his death the next morning.

The negroes, Madison, Warrick, Seward and Brown who were tried and convicted of the murder of Messrs Baker and Weaver in April last, were executed at St. Louis on the 9th inst. It was estimated that from 12,000 to 15,000 persons were present, among them a large number of females;

**Facts in Regard to Census.**—The editor of the Cincinnati Chronicle has been examining the returns of the census, taken at intervals of ten years each, since the adoption of the Constitution. The investigation shows some curious facts:—

1. The population of the United States increases exactly 34 per cent. each ten years, and which doubles every twenty four years. The law is so uniform and permanent, that when applied to the population of 1790, and brought down to the present time, it produces nearly the very result as shown by the census of 1840. And thus we may tell with great accuracy what will be the census of 1850. It will be nearly 23,000,000.

2. But though this is the aggregate result, it is by no means true of each particular parts of the country; for New England increases at the rate of 15 per cent. each 10 years, while the North Western States increases 100 per cent. in that period.

3. The slave population increased at 30 per cent., but since at less than 25 per cent. The free population have, however, increased at the rate of 36 per cent. At this rate, therefore, the difference between the free and slave population is constantly increasing.

4. Another fact is, that the colored population increase just in proportion to the distance south—and that slavery is certainly and rapidly decreasing in the States bordering on the free States.

This state of things continued, would, in half a century, extinguish slavery in these States, and concentrate the whole black population of the United States on the Gulf of Mexico, and the adjacent States on the Southern Atlantic.

**Deaf and blind girl.**—Dr. How states the following interesting facts in a letter to the editor of the N. Y. Commercial Advertiser:

"I am happy to tell you that after nearly six months apparently vain efforts, we have at last opened the means of communication with the mind of our unfortunate deaf and blind girl from Vermont. You know that she was very wild—almost savage, when she was brought here, and that she wore her head in a bag. For a long time she not only was sullen and unsocial, but she furiously repulsed all attempts to teach her, and would not submit to any examinations. So intractable was she, that I feared she might be insane. When she grew more docile, she submitted indeed to the attempts to teach her arbitrary signs, but was entirely passive and unconscious of the nature of the process to which she submitted. Her mind, entirely unused to reflection, seemed enshrouded in darkness and stillness as profound as that of the tomb, and only at times manifested mute amazement; but at last I seemed to seize upon her the clue which was offered to it, and by that clue is now guiding itself out in light. She is now manifestly aware of the nature of the process to which she is subject; her countenance is alive with a human expression; she comprehends the sign and names of several things, and begins to ask for more. The most delightful part of it is that little Laura Bridgman is a most ardent and useful co-adjutor in the work of enlightening Lucy."

**Imprisonment for Debt.**—The Philadelphia Gazette lays before its readers the following revolting picture, faithfully portraying the evils of the unjust system, of imprisonment for debt:

"It is estimated that at least 60,000 persons are lying in the prisons of the United States for debt. Probably, with but few exceptions, these 60,000 people are husbands and fathers, and have been torn a-

way from helpless, dependent [and weeping families, not for crime but for misfortune. In most instances, no doubt, this imprisoned multitude are able and willing to labor and earn a subsistence for their families, and something towards the extinguishment of their liabilities. But from every duty, and from every blessing of home and freedom they are cut off; and no useful end is accomplished by their imprisonment.—They are so many dead and buried men. They are sufficient in numbers to people a state, and make it ring with the notes of joy, and the din of cheerful industry. They are a larger body of men than that which achieved our national independence, and yet they pine in pestiferous cells, side by side with thieves, pirates and murders, under the sanction of the law."

A child was nearly strangled in Illinois a short time since, by a snake which had coiled round its neck.

The Russian Minister at Washington, advertises all his furniture for sale. It is said he is to go to Vienna.

### Married.

In Madison, Charles H Partridge of Gardiner to Miss Bridgett Weston.

In Canaan, E. G. Crowell, merchant of Canaan, to Miss Sally Eaton, daughter of Benj. Eaton Esq.

### DIED.

In Vassalborough, Sarah Mary, only daughter of Stephen P. and Sarah Buzzell, 4.

In Bath Mr. Timothy W. Waldron, 28.

In Quincy, Pa. Samuel Silman Low of Bath, 26.

In Matanzas, Cuba, Mr. Zaccheus Atkins, of Roxbury Mass—late of New Sharon 39.

### BRIGHTON MARKET.—Monday, July 19, 1841

[From the Daily Advertiser and Patriot.

At market 290 Beef Cattle, 25 cows and calves, 2600 sheep and 300 swine.

**PRICES**—Beef Cattle—We quote to correspond with last week. First quality 5 75 a \$6, second quality \$5 a 5 50; third quality \$4 a 4 75.

Cows and Calves—Sales we noticed at \$18, \$23, \$25, \$29, and \$35.

Sheep—Lots were sold from 1 25 to \$3, according to quality.

Swine—Several lots of sows at 4; Barrows at 5c; Pigs at retail from 5 to 7.

### Boston Miscellany of Literature and Fashion;

#### A LADIES' & GENTLEMEN'S MAGAZINE.

THE Subscribers have made arrangements to commence in January next, the publication of a *Monthly Magazine*, under the above title.

From every quarter a high meed of literary excellence has been granted to New England. On every list of the names that stand high in our country's literature, those of her sons stand highest. Their ranks are numerous and strong, and they are looked upon for the most efficient support of the literary periodicals in all parts of the country. That they should be obliged to turn abroad for the means of communicating with the world, is indeed unworthy of New England; as if her sons and daughters either could not or would not appreciate the value of those, who have grown up among them and of them. This has long been felt to be a deficiency and an evil; and it is with a view to fill this void in our national literature, that encouraged by those best able to judge of our wants and our ability, without any desire to produce a sectional work or to encourage sectional feelings, we have determined to establish the Miscellany.

We need only add, that we have not undertaken this work lightly, or without the intention of availing ourselves of all the resources so bountifully open. Every exertion will be made to call out, for the literary department of the Miscellany, all the talent to which we have just alluded, and we have no doubt that we have the sympathy of a large portion of the public in believing, that with such resources, this work may be made as interesting, as useful, and as highly worthy the favor of an enlightened public, as any similar one in the country.

The publishers take pleasure in announcing that NATHAN HALE, Jr, Esq. has consented to take charge of the editorial department of the work, a gentleman in whom they place the most implicit confidence, as being qualified in every way to perform the labors incident to such a station. No pains or expense will be spared to make the Miscellany worthy of the public patronage. Each Number will contain a highly finished original steel engraving, for the execution of which the most skillful and eminent artists in this country, as well as in Europe, will be engaged. Also a colored plate of the latest *Paris and London Fashions*, obtained from the most authentic sources abroad. The latter will be accompanied by such descriptions and suggestions, from a like source, as will make them, in the highest degree, intelligible and useful.

Each Number will also contain two or more pages of new and popular Music, for the Piano Forte and Guitar,

which will be composed or selected, and arranged, expressly for the Miscellany, by Prof. G. J. Webb, of this city.

In short, we may safely promise to furnish the reading public, with a literary Magazine, no way inferior to any similar work in Europe or America.

In *Mechanical execution*, New England need not fear competition, to say the least, from other parts of the country. The Miscellany will contain 48 pages of reading matter, and will be printed on elegant paper, from a new and beautiful type; and a Specimen Number will be offered to the public as early as the first of September next. The work will be published on the first of each month in every section of the country, consequently each subscriber may rest assured of receiving his or her copy, before its contents can have been anticipated from any other source.

The Miscellany will be furnished at three dollars per annum, and in no case will there be any reduction. Payment always in advance.

All Communications addressed to the Publishers, post paid, will meet with immediate attention.

Any Communications to the Editor may be forwarded to the same address, BRADBURY & SODEN,

No. 10 School Street, Boston.

Wanted, a faithful agent in each county in the New England States to canvass the same for the Boston Miscellany; said agent to have the exclusive right to canvass the county allotted him. The best of references will be required. Apply as above.

### A Card.

Mrs. C. W. HAINS, from feelings of gratitude and under a deep sense of obligation, would embrace this opportunity to tender her most sincere thanks to all those persons who rendered such prompt and timely aid, on the 28th inst. in extinguishing the flames upon her buildings which at one period threatened immediate destruction; without which aid her home would have been a desolation. July 28, 1841.

### Notice.

LITTLE, WOOD & Co. will keep constantly on hand, at their Store opposite the Brick Factory in Winthrop, a good assortment of Cotton Sheetings, Drillings, and Lewiston Yarn. Also a general assortment of West India and Dry Goods, Flour, Oils, Paints, Nails, &c. which will be sold low for cash or country produce.

Those who wish to purchase will do well to call and examine for themselves before going farther.

Winthrop, August 2, 1841. 31

### Farm for Sale,

SITUATED in Winthrop, about one mile from the Baptist Meeting House, and near the Friends' Meeting House, and eight miles from Augusta and Hallowell. Said farm contains about one hundred and twenty-five acres of good land and well proportioned as to tillage, pasturing and woodland, a valuable orchard with choice ingrafted apples and pears, and a good dwelling house, 42 feet by 32, porch and wood-house attached to it, a barn 63 feet by 35, with two sheds 40 feet each attached to it, and a shop and granary 32 by 22 feet and a cider-mill, a valuable well of water at the house and another at the barn; likewise a dwelling house in good repair about forty rods from the above, fitted for two small families with a good well of water and a shop if desired. I will sell my stock and farming tools together with one hundred barrels of cider in suitable hogsheads for making vinegar. For further particulars inquire of the subscriber on the premises. Terms of payment easy. WADSWORTH FOSTER. Winthrop, February 25, 1841. 81f

### Buckfield High School & Lyceum.

REV CYRIL PEARL, Principal.

THE Fall Term in this Institution is to commence on Monday, Sept. 6, and to continue eleven weeks.

Tuition payable in advance  
For common English branches \$3.00  
Higher branches or languages 4.00  
Tuition for a shorter period than the term from Thirty 19 Forty cents per week.

Incidental expenses including a Catalogue 25 cents.  
Use of Library and Reading room (optional with pupils) 25 cents.

Board in good families per week from \$1.25 to \$1.50.

The Directors take pleasure in stating that Mr. JOSEPH C. RICHARDSON, A. B. whose services as an assistant have been highly acceptable during the Spring and Summer terms, is still to continue in the institution, and will devote his time to languages and the mathematics, thus leaving the Principal at liberty to devote his time to the other departments.

Other assistants will be furnished should the patronage of the school render it necessary and practicable.

The school room has been enlarged so as to accommodate a much larger number than during the Spring term, and a spacious class room has been furnished. The Teachers department will receive special attention during the Fall term.

ZADOC LONG,  
SAMUEL P. BROWN, } Directors.  
WM. W. COMSTOCK,  
JAMES JEWETT,

Ju'y 30, 1841. 81



## POETRY.

Original.

MR. HOLMES:—The following verses, written on the death of BRADFORD B. DAGGETT, son of Col. Daggett of New Vineyard, who was drowned in Sandy River on the 15th inst. are at your disposal.

Sad feelings now call forth the pen;  
Remembrance sad appears;  
A youth has gone from scenes of men  
And left us all in tears.

He was a youth in whom appeared  
A hopeful, active mind;  
To friends, relations, all endeared  
By disposition kind.

His mind the rod of science took  
With ardor ever strong;  
And though the way he ne'er forsook,  
His journey was not long.

For scarce his preparation made,  
He looked toward College Halls,  
Before the "debt of nature" paid,  
He heard his Maker's call.

O Sandy! why didst thou deprive  
Us of so fine a youth;  
Why not thy waves let him survive  
To revel in the "truth."

Full well may I, with visage sad  
Lament my absent friend;  
Full well may mourn in sorrow clad  
For his untimely end.

For we have studied ancient lore  
Together side by side;  
And turned those leaves, which evermore  
Are to his eyes denied.

When last we met, his joyous eye  
Beamed forth with thrilling hope;  
But now nor tear, nor troubled sigh  
That eye shall ever ope.

Wave gently, willow, o'er his tomb!  
Revere the student's bed;  
And while fair flow'ers round him bloom  
Drop tears above his head.

Farmington, July 26, 1841.

EPHEBUS.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

## THE WEDDED LIFE.

BY MRS. SANFORD.

The first year of a young woman's life, is generally the most unhappy, and the most trying one she experiences. However intensely we may have studied the character of our affianced, however well we may have imagined we know it in all its narrow windings, still shall we find, when we become wives, that we have something else to learn. By actions are the affections on either side shown, and although it is in the power and nature of a woman to manifest her devotedness by a thousand little attentions, she must not repine if she receives not the like.

The feelings of the other sex are not so soft and exquisite as those of our own; if they were we might possibly be happier, and we may for a moment wish they were so, but we shall restrain so selfish a desire, if we reflect how much more unfit they would be by such a constitution to bear the crosses and buffets of the world.

It is said that lover's quarrels are but the renewal of love, but it is not so in truth. Continued difference and bickerings will undermine the strongest affection, and a wife cannot be too careful to avoid disputes upon the most trivial subject; indeed it is the every day occurrences which try the love and temper of the married life; great occasions for quarrels seldom occur. Every wish, every prejudice must meet with attention, and the first thought of a woman should be the pleasing and providing for her husband. It is impossible to enumerate all the little incidents which may annoy married men, or the little unobtrusive pleasure which it is in the power of a wife to give; but throughout her life in employments, she must bear his pleasures on her mind. She must act for him in preference to herself, and she will be amply rewarded by witnessing his delight in her and his home. To a woman who loves her husband with all the devotedness of her nature, this will be a pleasure, not a task; and to make him happy, she will never grudge any sacrifice of self.

The greatest misery a woman can experience is the change of heart, and the alienated affections her husband, but even in that painful case she must not upbraid; she must bear with patience and fortitude her great disappointment, she must return good for evil to the utmost, and her consolation will be consciousness that her trials have not their rise or

continuance in any decline of affection or duty on her part.

Some women in order to win back the husband's wandering love, have recourse to attempts to arouse his jealousy; but they are much mistaken in pursuing such a course. A man, however debased his conduct, never entirely forgets the love he once bore to the bride of his youth; there are moments when feelings of tenderness for her will return with force to his heart; to reap the benefit of such moments, the injured, forgiving wife must still be enshrined in the purity of former times. A husband will excuse his faults to himself, and in some measure, stand exonerated in the world, if the wife relax in the propriety of her conduct, while on the contrary, the gentle forbearance, the uncomplaining patience, and the unobtrusive rectitude of the woman he injures, will deeply strike to his heart, and do much to win him back to his former love, and to the observance of the vows he breathed at the altar where his heart was devoted to the being from whom it has wandered. A kind look, affectionate expression half uttered, must bring his wife to his side, and she must with smiles of tenderness, encourage the returning affection, carefully avoiding all reference to sufferings or the cause of them.

This will not be difficult for virtuous woman to perform. Our love which before marriage is constrained by the modesty and reserve natural to our sex, increases in fervency and depth afterwards; it enables us to hear unfelt the world's scorn; all is swallowed up in it. An affectionate wife clings to her husband through poverty and riches; and the more the world recedes from him, the more firmly will she stand by him; she will be his friend when no others come near him; she will be his comforter when all earthly comforts have slid from him. Her devotedness will be his rock, when he has no other support; she will smile at the frowns of the world; she will not heed its censures; he is her all, and in love are all other feelings to be forgotten or absorbed. No sacrifice will be too great, the faintest smile will not be rewarded too little; quick at feeling unkindness, we are also quick at feeling tenderness, and a very trifling circumstance is sufficient to awaken or to still the pain of our heart, and bring us misery or happiness.—*Am. Farmer.*

Oxford Woollen Manufactory.  
New Establishment.

GILLET & BRIDGES are now having erected at Oxford (Craigies' Mills,) a commodious building for the purpose of Manufacturing Woollen Cloths from the raw material. Their machinery is of the latest and best construction, and will be operated by experienced workmen. Having visited and obtained information from the best manufacturers and dyers in the country, in addition to their own experience, they feel warranted in assuring the public that they can produce as good an article of domestic cloths, both as respects durability and neatness, as has yet been made in the State. They have spared no expense in machinery and will spare none in labor, and therefore feel confident of giving perfect satisfaction to all who may favor them with their patronage.

Their mill is situated on the outlet of Thompson's pond, a stream which is well known to furnish a constant supply of water, which will enable them to prosecute their business at all seasons without delay.

They will be ready to receive and manufacture Wool the first of June, and will guarantee all work to be done in a good and workmanlike manner, and at the shortest notice.

They hold themselves responsible for all work that goes out of their hands unfaithfully done.

The following will be their prices for manufacturing from the raw material, when the wool is taken and cloth delivered at their mill.

Casimeres from 42 to 50 cts per yard,

Common tatted cloth 30 to 37 1-2 cts. per yard,

Blanketing, 11-8 wide, 17 to 20,

White flannel 17 cts.

Colored flannel 25 cts.

Colored and pressed 25 cts.

Satinet 30 to 37 1-2 and find warp.

All wool should be well washed on the sheep, and bro't to the mill in the fleece.

Wool Manufactured on Shares.

## Wool Carded &amp; Cloth Dressed.

GILLET & BRIDGES will also card wool and dress cloth in the best manner, and on as reasonable terms as any other establishment in this vicinity.

Oxford, April 20, 1841.

E. B.

Dr. Brandreth's Vegetable  
Universal Pills.

A fresh supply just received at the Store recently occupied by Peleg Benson, Jr. & Co., and to be kept constantly for sale by

Winthrop, January 8, 1841.

copy 1.

## Improved Pigs for Sale.

THE subscriber has a litter of fifteen pigs, of mixed breeds, Tuscarora and Berkshire, from the same sow and boar that produced the litter to which the first premium was awarded last fall. A premium was also given for the boar. They are one week old and are large and handsome. Also:—one yoke of five years old oxen, and one yoke of two years old steers for sale. DAN'L TABER. Vassalboro' 7th mo. 19th, 1841. '3w29

## WHITMAN'S

Thrasher, Separator and New  
Horse Power.

THE undersigned continues to manufacture his Horse Power and Separator at his Shop in Winthrop, Kennebec Co. Maine, where those who are in want of a first rate apparatus for thrashing and cleansing grain can be supplied at short notice. His experience in the making and operation of the Horse Power, has enabled him to make very essential improvements in its construction, and he flatters himself that he can furnish one of the best machines of the kind now known.

He makes use of the best materials, and employs first rate workmen, and thinks that he cannot fail to give satisfaction to those who are disposed to purchase of him. He will sell rights to his Patent Separator for any territory not already disposed of, with a good and sufficient title to the same.

He has also on hand a number of Cylinder Thrashers which he will sell separate from the other machinery.—Whoever wishes to buy a Thrasher—a Separator or Horse Power, single or all united had better call and examine.

LUTHER WHITMAN.

Winthrop, July, 2841.

28

Winthrop, December 29, 2840.

To whom it may concern.—The undersigned, inhabitants of Winthrop, have been acquainted with Whitman's Separator for some months past, and many of us have had our grain thrashed and cleansed by it. It has been in operation in this town and elsewhere, during the present thrashing season, and we do not hesitate to say, that it works with more ease—thrashes and cleanses the grain better, with more dispatch and less waste, and in its form and construction appears more durable and less liable to get out of repair than any machine within our knowledge. In short, we consider it a more valuable machine than any one in use, for thrashing and cleansing grain, in this part of the country, and cheerfully recommend it to the public as well entitled to confidence.

LLOYD THOMAS,

JOHN O. WING,  
NOAH COURRIER,  
JOS. A. METCALF,  
CEPHAS THOMAS,  
DAN'L M'DUFFIE.

JONA WHITING,

S. J. PHILBROOK,

MOSES H. METCALF,

HEBRON LUCE,

ZIPHION HOWARD.

## The Maine Farmer,

And Journal of the Useful Arts.

IS PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY  
By WILLIAM NOYES;  
E. HOLMES, EDITOR.

Price \$2.00 a year. \$2.50 will be charged if payment is delayed beyond the year. A deduction of 25 cents will be made to those who pay CASH in advance—and a proportionable deduction to those who pay before the publication of the 26th number, at which time payment is considered due.

Any kind of produce, not liable to be injured by frost, delivered to an Agent in any town in the State, will be received in payment, if delivered within the year.

No paper will be discontinued until all arrearages are paid, except at the option of the publisher; and when payment is made to an Agent, two numbers more than have been received, should be paid for.

O. L. SANBORN, 22 Exchange St., Portland, is publishing Agent for that city.

All letters on business must be free of postage, and should be directed to the Publisher at Winthrop. Communications sent by mail should also be directed to Winthrop.

When Agents make remittances it is very important to us that they distinctly state to whom the money is to be credited, and at what Post Office each paper paid for is sent, as we cannot otherwise well find the name on our books.

Any person who will obtain six responsible subscribers, and act as Agent, shall receive a copy for his services.

A few short advertisements will be inserted at the following rates. All less than a square \$1.00 for three insertions. \$1.25 per square, for three insertions. Continued three weeks at one half these rates.

## GENERAL AGENTS

HORACE WATERS, Augusta;

C. M. LADD, Hallowell;

J. & J. TREE, Bangor.

J. JOHNSON, and A. B. CASWELL, Farmington.

JOHN O'BRIEN, Esq., Thomaston.

GENSHOM HYDE, Bath.